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What is Sodium Lauryl Sulfate (SLS)?

Sodium Lauryl Sulfate (SLS) is a harsh (caustic) detergent. Also known as a surfactant, which breaks down the surface tension of water. "It can actually damage the outer layer of the skin, the stratum corneum, causing dryness, roughness, scaliness, fissuring, loss of flexibility and reduction of the barrier functions of normal healthy skin. The lipid dissolving action of some detergents, including SLS cause damage to the moisture retaining ability of the cellular level resulting in water loss and loss of water-binding ability" (*Cosmetic Science* , C. Prottey, 1978)

 **Sodium lauryl sulfate**, a surface active agent and a common surfactant used in ~~shampoos~~, was found to increase the absorption of certain chemicals. Simply put, SLS in your shampoo could be increasing the rate of skin absorption of other chemicals in your shampoo and conditioner which may include preservatives, fragrances and color additives. (*Cosmetic and the Skin*, F.V. Wells, Reinhold Publishing Corporation, New York, 1964)

Sodium Lauryl sulfate (SLS) is used in concrete floor cleaners, engine degreasers, car wash detergents. Along with hundreds of personal care products including probably every major brand of toothpaste you can find.

Cosmetics and personal care products containing Sodium Lauryl Sulfate:

- could keep children's eyes from developing properly. Children under six are especially vulnerable to improper eye development;
 - can cause cataracts in adults and delay healing of wounds on the cornea;
 - can build up and cause major problems in the heart, liver, lungs and brain;
 - can cause roughness and flaking of the skin;
 - is a caustic cleanser that could corrode the hair;
 - is routinely used in clinical studies to deliberately irritate the skin so the effects of other substances can be tested.
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A report from the Journal of the American College of Toxicology; Vol. 2, No. 7, 1983 states,

- SLS is routinely used in clinical studies to irritate skin tissue.

- SLS corrodes hair follicle and impairs ability to grow hair.
- Carcinogenic Nitrates can form when SLS interacts with other nitrogen bearing ingredients.
- SLS enters and maintains residual levels in the heart, liver, lungs and brain from skin contact. (Shampoos?)
- SLS denatures protein, impairs proper structural formation of young eyes - damage permanent.
- SLS can damage the immune system; cause separation of skin layers and cause inflammation to the skin.

Many medications are now administered through patches on the skin or by placing drops under the tongue. Do you feel that it would be healthy to have chemicals such as Propylene Glycol and Sodium Lauryl Sulfate making contact with your body multiple times a day?

Studies are ongoing in this area. SLS is cheap and available and cost is definitely a factor when manufacturers are deciding on their formulations. The irony is that we as consumers rarely see any of this saving and pay high prices for products that contain the same cheap ingredients as a lower priced product that doesn't have the benefit of a well known name and a huge advertising budget. There are safer products on the market. There are safer alternatives to SLS but they can cost up to ten times more than SLS. One manufacturer said "I know it's not a good ingredient, but everyone uses it."

It has been shown in most cases to be extremely dangerous to your health. In most cases the cap on the bottle costs more than the ingredients inside.

**If dousing your body everyday with CARCINOGENS
does not appeal to you and you would like to
find personal care products that do not contain
these dangerous chemicals
then I have a solution for you.**

**Are SHOCKING Ingredients Lurking In Your Bathroom?
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Now that you know! What will you do?

There are alternative cosmetics and personal Care products that are safe, effective and free of carcinogens, toxins, contaminants, and other potentially harmful ingredients such as DEA, TEA, Sodium lauryl sulfate, Sodium laureth sulfate, Propylene glycol, Aluminum, Mineral Oil, Petrolatum, Talc, Alcohol, Fluoride, Alpha hydroxy acids, Lanolin, fluorocarbons, talc, and Artificial fragrances, colors, sweeteners, flavors, etc

- **Safe Skin Care Products** - Includes cleansers, moisturizers, lotions, bath/shower gel, wrinkle creams, circles and lines, skin enhancers, low molecular weight so that they work cellular deep.
- **Safe Hair Care Products** - includes shampoos, conditioners, hair sprays & gels, moisturizers
- **Safe Personal Care Products** - includes deodorant (without aluminum or propylene glycol), powder (without talc), wipes that can be used as baby wipes, bubble bath and shaving gel (without Sodium Lauryl Sulfate),
- **Safe Oral-Dental Care Products** - includes toothpastes, mouthwash & tooth whitener
- **Sun Protection Product** - Includes tanning lotions, sunblock, sunless tan lotions (light & dark), after-sun lotion,

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